(a) whether it is a fact that the price of cotton in the international market is less than its price in India;

(b) if so, the average price of cotton in October and November in international and Indian market;

(c) whether it is also a fact that less cotton and jute will be exported due to higher price in Indian market; and

(d) if so, export value of cotton and yarn during the period upto November, 2007 to November, 2008?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) At present the price of cotton in the international market is lower than its price in India. Average price of cotton in October and November in international and Indian markets is as under:—

Month	International prices of cotton		Average Spot rate of equivalent Indian cotton (H-4)	Difference
	US Cents/lb	(Rs. per candy)	(Rs. per candy)	(Rs. per candy)
October	62.30	23752	23270	-487
November	55.06	20103	21929	1826

Source: Cot look A Index and Cotton Association of India for spot rate of H-4.

(c) Export of cotton and jute is not dependent on price alone but on various factors including quality of the product, economic slow down and subdued demand.

(d) The export value of cotton raw including waste cotton yarn, fabrics and made-ups during November, 2007 to August, 2008 is as follows:—

(Value in Rs. Crores)

Cotton raw including waste	8569.12
Cotton yarn, fabrics and made ups	1603.37

Scheme for weavers in tribal States

1853. SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any special scheme for assisting weavers in tribal States in the North East India for promoting traditional arts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amounts of special grants or grants-in-aid or any other monetary assistance provided to the weavers of traditional attires in Nagaland since last three years; and

(d) if there is no such scheme, whether Government would consider introducing such scheme for the traditional weavers in predominant tribal States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) The Government of India has been implementing following schemes for assisting weavers in various States, including States in the North East India for promoting traditional arts:—

(i) Integrated Handlooms Development Scheme (IHDS)

(ii) Marketing and Export Promotion Scheme (MEPS)

(iii) Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme

(iv) Mill Gate Price Scheme (MGPS)

(v) Diversified Handloom Development Scheme (DHDS)

(c) and (d) The Government of India is providing monetary assistance for the benefit of the handloom weavers for overall development of the Handloom Sector in the country, including Nagaland State, subject to submission of viable proposals and availability of the budget under the above schemes. For the Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttarakhand, North Eastern States including Nagaland *etc.*, the Government of India provides higher funding towards various components of some of the above schemes. A sum of Rs. 25.39 crore has been released to Nagaland State during last three years under various handloom schemes.

Revival of NTC mills

1854. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of textile mills under National Textile Corporation lying closed during the last three years;

(b) whether Government proposes to revive, re-open and modernize the above closed textile mills under public-private partnership;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the review package has been approved by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR); and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) So far National Textile Corporation (NTC) has closed 67 unviable mills under Industrial Disputes (ID) Act, 1947 as per rehabilitation scheme sanctioned by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) and approved by Government.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. At present, there is no proposal to revive, reopen and modernize the above closed mills under public-private partnership.